



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Thicket
National Preserve

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Big Thicket National Preserve

News Release

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For Immediate Release
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Big Thicket National Preserve Closes Due to Hurricane Gustav

The Preserve will be closed to public use and entry from 5:00 p.m. Friday, August 29, 2008, until further notice. This temporary closure is for public protection during the potential landfall of Hurricane Gustav along the Southeast Texas coast. The closure includes all of the Preserve's facilities and all land and water areas within the boundaries of the Preserve.

Hurricane Gustav is expected to make landfall sometime Wednesday as a strong Category 3 or greater hurricane. Predictions are that landfall will be somewhere between New Orleans, Louisiana, and Port Lavaca, Texas. Since there is a 300-mile error swath, the Preserve is closing its facilities and land and water areas to public entry and use.

Closure is by order of the Superintendent under the authority of Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations 1.5 (a) (1). Violation of this order is punishable by fine of up to \$5,000 or imprisonment for up to six months, or both.